Consultants in Ministry of HRD

4629. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated rules regarding appointment of consultants in different Ministries and Departments;

(b) if so, what are the rules; and

(c) whether the various bodies set up by Government of India under the Ministry of Human Resource Development are required to follow these rules?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A summary of the scheme of engagement of Consultants circulated by the Department of Personnel & Training is given in the annexed statement (*See* below).

(c) The provisions of the scheme of engagement of consultants framed by the Department of Personnel & Training are applicable to Government Ministries/Departments including their attached and subordinate offices. However, that Department permits extension of applicability of the provisions of the scheme to Autonomous organisations with their prior consultation.

Statement

Summary of the scheme of engagement of consultants issued by Department of Personnel & Training

(a) Criteria

Consultants should be engaged only to undertake specific jobs of a specialised nature and should not be appointed for the regular work of the Ministries/Departments.

(b) Ceiling on No. of Consultants

The strength of Consultant should be restricted to 10% of the total number of posts at the level of Joint Secretary and above within the Ministry/Department, including attached/subordinate offices.

(c) Period of engagement

The maximum period of engagement should not exceed two years in case of outside experts. However, in case of retiring/ retired Government servants, the period of engagement as Consultants should not exceed six months.

(d) Age Limit

No retired Government servant should be engaged as a Consultant beyond the age of 62 years. No relaxation of age limit shall henceforth be allowed by the Department of Personnel & Training.

(e) Fee

In the case of non-officials (outside experts), the fee will henceforth be subject to a ceiling of Rs, 26,000 p.m. (with no DA, HRA, CCA or any other relief) if the engagement as Consultant is on a whole-time basis and of Rs. 13,000 p.m. (with no DA, HRA, CCA or any other relief) if the engagement is on a part-time basis. In the case of retiring/ retired Government servants engaged as full-time consultants, the fee will be fixed subject to a ceiling of Rs. 13,000 p.m.. They will also draw their pension and relief thereon in addition. If the retiring/retired Government servant is engaged as a part-time consultant the fee will be subject to a ceiling of Rs. 6500/- p.m. (without any adjustment of the pension drawn by him.).

(f) TA/DA

TA/DA may be allowed to Consultants as per normal rules applicable to any serving officer of an equivalent rank in the Ministies/Departments.

Integration of education for disabled in regular schools

4630. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government had recently requested the States to integrate education for physically-challenged students into regular schools;